

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 122939

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, ETEL, MILI

SUBJECT: INTEROPERABILITY OF TACTICAL AREA COMMUNICATIONS

1. IN LIGHT OF DPC APPROVAL OF SECDEF AGENDA ITEM IVC,
WE WOULD HOPE FOR EARLY ACTION BY IS TO PROPOSE GROUP
OR GROUPS WHICH SHOULD TAKE LEAD IN RESPONDING TO DPC.
OUR VIEWS FOLLOW:

2. AS WE SEE IT, NATO GROUPS WITH PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PLANNING AND DIRECTING THE TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT OF TACTICAL AND LONG HAUL COMMUNICATIONS INCLUDE THE NEW CNAD TRI-SERVICE GROUP FOR C-E EQUIPMENT (TSGCEE) AND NJCEC RESPECTIVELY. SINCE TACTICAL AND LONG HAUL SYSTEMS MUST BE INTEROPERABLE, THOSE TWO NATO BODIES NEED TO WORK TOGETHER. AT THE OUTSET, WE BELIEVE THE
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TSGCEE SHOULD BE ASSIGNED THE LEAD ROLE WITH THE NJCEC (REPRESENTED BY NICSMA) AS AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT. FINANCIAL COMMITTEES WILL HAVE TO BE BROUGHT INTO THE PICTURE AS THIS APPROACH IS DEVELOPED.

3. THE TSGCEE IS MEETING IN LATE JUNE AND SHOULD FLESH OUT SOME OF THE PRINCIPLES, OBJECTIVES AND SCHEDULES FOR

PROCEEDING WITH THE EFFORT.

4. TO SUPPORT THE TSGCEE/NJCEC IN A TIMELY MANNER, WE BELIEVE THAT AN AD HOC GROUP, INCLUDING REPS OF NATIONAL DELEGATIONS AND AUGMENTED AS NECESSARY BY REPS FROM CAPITALS, WILL BE NEEDED TO EXPLORE THE INITIATIVE IN DETAIL. THE SAME GROUP COULD BE CHARGED WITH PREPARING THE C3 LONG TERM PROGRAM ENVISIONED IN OUR MINISTERIAL INITIATIVE. FOR OUR PART, WE WILL BE PREPARED AT FORTHCOMING MEETING OF THE TSGCEE TO EXPAND ON HOW WE THINK THE INITIATIVE MIGHT BEST BE EXPLORED.

5. YOUR VIEWS AND COMMENTS ARE SOLICITED.

6. AS A RELATED MATTER, WHAT ARE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO HOW US CAN MOST EFFECTIVELY SURFACE ITS PACKAGE PROPOSAL, AS OUTLINED ON PP6-7 OF TAB E OF KOMER REPORT, WHICH MISSION HAS?

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